

[20th August 1925]

Mr. R. Veerian will see that he is doing injustice to himself, to the magistracy and to the cause of self-government by putting this question."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—"Is there not the possibility of influencing the sub-magistrate when he becomes a tennismate with the leader of the opposite party?" (Laughter.)

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"If that question were pushed to its logical conclusion all I can say is that there are new terrors in tennis of which we are not aware."

Public Works.

Divisions comprising the circle of the Superintending Engineer, Madras.

* 179 Q.—MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the divisions comprising the circle of the Superintending Engineer, Madras;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Ceded districts included in the circle are worse circumstanced in the matter of rain, irrigation and roads than the rest of the area included in the circle;

(c) whether the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal which has cost over a crore of rupees and requires to be developed is situated entirely in the Kurnool and Cuddapah districts;

(d) whether it is a fact that there are many major and minor irrigation projects to be investigated in the Kurnool and Bellary districts, especially with reference to the Tungabhadra channels, the Chepad system, etc.;

(e) whether there is not Government accommodation for office and residential purposes of the Superintending Engineer, if Bellary is again made his headquarters;

(f) whether the change of headquarters to Madras has not added to the difficulties of adequately supervising the roads and the irrigation works and of investigating and suggesting ways and means for improving the irrigation facilities in the Ceded districts and minimising the effects of periodical failures of monsoons therein; and

(g) whether representations have been received by the Government that Bellary should be reconstituted the headquarters of the Superintending Engineer, and if so, what orders have been passed thereon?

A.—(a) Bellary, Kurnool, Madanapalle, Chingleput and North and South Presidency.

(b) Yes, so far as rainfall is concerned and possibly in the other respects.

(c) The canal is situated in the Kurnool and Cuddapah districts.

(d) The Government have recently appointed a committee, of which the hon. Member is one, to inquire into this matter and advise them.

(e) There is no accommodation available now, but arrangements could probably be made.

(f) & (g) Schemes of retrenchment, no doubt, tend to increase such difficulties as the hon. Member suggests, but the Government have not received any request so far for the reconstitution of the Bellary Circle.

20th August 1925]

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know what has become of the bungalow which served as the residential quarters of the Superintending Engineer?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" It was otherwise disposed of."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" For what purpose may I know?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" It is not possible to say at once. I will inform the hon. Member later."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" With regard to (d) I myself made a representation. May I know whether the matter is now engaging the attention of the Government though it may not be on a request made from outside?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" The matter has not yet been taken up."

Railways.

Erection of a pumping station on the river Palar by the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Company.

* 180 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Company propose to locate a pumping station to convey water to Jalarpet and other stations on the bed of Palar river in Kadayanchi village, adjacent to Vaniyambadi town;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the location of the pumping station at the proposed site would diminish the underground supply of water which now is used for the cultivation of about 5,000 acres of land; and

(c) whether the Government propose to take any steps to prevent the location of this pumping station?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 14.

Religious Disputes.

Construction of a temple in proximity to Muhammadan place of worship, Kurnool.

* 181 Q.—Mr. K. ABDUL HYE SAHIB : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that all the District Magistrates of Kurnool since 1907 have disapproved of the action of the late Krishnaswami Chetti of Kurnool, namely, the construction of a temple in Raja street on the ground of its close proximity to already established places of Muhammadan worship in the locality and in their orders it was distinctly laid down that no public pooja should be performed and no public procession should be taken out from the chattram constructed by the late Chettiyar;

(b) if the answer be in the affirmative, the reasons why public pooja is allowed to be performed in the said chattram, and why public procession was